



## Cultural Circuit: Antic Aurès and Oasis

## 10 Days / 09 Nights

#### Day 1 : Algiers,

Arrival and reception at Algiers airport, Transfer to the hotel, with a stop at Riadh El Feth and Les Balcons d'Alger. Chek in at the hotel, then walk around the city on foot in the boulevards of Algiers: Michelet, d'Isly, the Grande Poste, the Forum and the Floral Clock. Dinner and overnight.

#### Day 2 : Algiers-Kasbah -

Departure to visit the Casbah, starting with the Citadel and the Centenary

House (Architect Claro Léon). Then cross the Casbah through the small alleys with

stops to visit Traditional Houses, Terraces with panoramic views of the Bay of Algiers, tea tastings and traditional cakes.

Then visit the oldest mosque from the Casbah: Sidi Ramdane, the Bir Chebana Fountain, the Sidi Abderahmane Mausoleum, the Mustapha Pasha Palace (currently the Arab Calligraphy Museum). Traditional Lunch at the Casbah. Afternoon discover the seafront boulevard and the national theater (1853), the popular district of Bâb El



Oued which is a set of districts (Guillemin, Trois Horloges, Baceta, Climat de France and Trioli). then we end the hike with the Basilica of Our Lady of Africa (1872), an architectural gem built on an exceptional site which dominates Algiers from east to west. Dinner and overnight at the hotel.

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### **Day 3 : Cherchell – Tipasa – Tombeau de la Chrétienne-** (100 km – 1h30)

Departure towards Cherchell, ancient Roman Caesarea (IOL Phoenician). Then visit the museum of exceptional ancient sculptures, then visit the Museum of ancient pieces and its Mosaic garden and we will end with the discovery of the Roman Baths. Lunch.

Direction Tipasa with a visit to the ancient city located in the West hill, the theater, the circus, the



thermal baths ... (This site is classified by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site) ... Many Punic remains, Romans, Christians and Africans attest to the rich history of this

region. On the way back we make a detour to visit the Royal Mausoleum of Mauritania, called Tombeau de la Chrétienne. Dinner and overnight at the hotel.

## Day 4 : Algiers-Sétif– Constantine (03 heures- 280 km)

Departure to the archaeological park of "Djemila", classified by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site. Formerly Cuicul. It is one of



the most beautiful sets of Roman ruins in the world. The archaeological remains, the

well-integrated Roman urban plan and the environmental framework constitute the resources which represent the values attributed to the site (we will discover the Arch of Caracala, the Great Baths, the Christian Basilica as well as the museum and its magnificent paintings mosaics) as well as the 4th Century Baptistery. Arrival at the end of the morning, lunch in a nearby restaurant.



Afternoon, visit of the museum and the ancient site of Djemila. End of the day, drive to Constantine, dinner and overnight in an Ibis hotel.



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### Day 5 : Sétif - Tiddis - Constantine (180 km - 02 h) -

Departure to Tiddis: an authentic Berber site modified by Roman civilization and fitted out according to their urbanization systems. Tiddis (or Castellum Tidditanorum), which once depended on Cirta still retains Libyan inscriptions and symbols on Berber pottery. Direction Constantine, check in at the hotel, then lunch.

Afternoon, visit of the Cirta Museum, then stroll through the alleys of the old town, which constitutes a true foray into the history of Constantine, the Rhummel gorges and the magnificent panoramas offered by the old Monument to the Dead and the famous suspension bridges of the city. Dinner and overnight.





#### Day 6 : Constantine - Batna- (120 km – 02 heures)

Departure to Batna with a stop in the Saltworks (Grand Chott where salt is produced). Visit of their production workshop. Then visit Medracen which is a famous Berber

Tomb. Lunch in Timgad, Afternoon visit of the City of Timgad: The Roman city, which bore the name of Thamugadi (colonia Marciana Traiana Thamugadi) in Antiquity, was founded by Emperor Trajan and endowed with the status of a colony. It is the last deduction colony in Roman Africa. Built with its temples, thermal baths, forum and large theater. On the way back to the hotel, we



will make a brief tour of what remains of Lambese (Lambaesis), Heart of the Roman military presence in Africa and former headquarters of the 3rd Legion of Augustus under Trajan.



The small town of Tazoult is also known for its penitentiary erected in 1850 which helped a lot in the discovery of the old city but also a major obstacle to a thorough study of its remains, the gradual destruction because of the penitentiary, the colonial village then the current agglomeration have made it difficult to conserve the Lambèse site. Return to the hotel for dinner and overnight at the hotel.

## Day 7 – Les Aurès –Les Balcons du Ghoufi – Biskra (200Km)

Early in the morning departure to Biskra with the crossing: From the Aurès massif, Arris, Banniane, various stops on the Balcons du Ghoufi, the largest canyon in Algeria with troglodite villages. Picnic on the outskirts of the valley of the El Abiod wadi. Arrival at the end of the day in





Biskra. Installation at the hotel, dinner and overnight stay.

### Day 8 - Biskra - Tolga

Morning visit of the Oasis of Biskra with its traditional market, its Jardin des Plantes and its Kasbah.

Local cuisine lunch in the city center. Afternoon, visit of the Tolga palm grove, where Algerian dates are produced and exported all over the world.

Meeting with a date producer who will tell us about his profession and will make us taste a tea with his dates. In the evening, return to the hotel for dinner and overnight.

#### Jour 9 – Biskra – Alger – Jardin d'Essai

Biskra airport transfer and flight to Algiers, (01 hour flight) visit of the National Museum of Fine Arts. Open to the public since the 1930s, the museum has no less than 8,000 works, including paintings by great Dutch and French masters such as:



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Brugghen, Renoir, Monet, Matisse, Delacroix, Van Goyen, Gauguin or even Pissarro.

Lunch at the Jardin d'Essai. The Essai Garden is located at the foot of the National Museum of Fine Arts. Created in 1832, its west wing is occupied by the French Garden while its southeast wing is occupied by the English Garden. There are also several stone sculptures by Emile Gaudissard. Dinner and overnight.

## Day 10 – Alger – Flight return

Free time and airport transfer, Boarding assistance depending on the return flight



## The price per person for this cultural trip to Algeria includes:

- 03 nights in a 3 \* hotel in Algiers
- 02 nights in a 3 \* hotel in Constantine
- 01 night 3 \* hotel in Batna
- 02 nights 3 \* hotel in Biskra
- Flight Biskra / Algiers
- 01 night 3 \* hotel in Algiers
- Double and single room
- Full Board
- Comfort vehicle + French speaking driver
- Tourist guide throughout the tour
- Visits included with cultural guide on each site.
- Luggage carriers at each airport and hotel
- All the documents necessary to obtain visas

\* The price of this cultural trip to Algeria is calculated on the basis of a minimum of 10 people and on promotional flights, subject to availability and modification of prices (fuel increase, airport taxes, etc.)

### The price per person of this cultural circuit in Algeria, does not include:

- International / Algiers / International flight
- Visa fees: 120 € per visa
- Personal expenses
- Lunches and dinners
- Single room: + 260 €
- Repatriation and multi-risk cancellation insurance
- Guaranteed departure 02 people =  $+600 \notin$  per person



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